

Appl. No. 10/665,949
Atty. Docket No. 9365Q
Amdt. dated August 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 17, 2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for making an edge fold on an absorbent article having longitudinal edges comprising the steps of:
activating incrementally stretching a portion of ~~[[an]]~~ the absorbent article along ~~[[its]]~~ a longitudinal ~~[[edges]]~~ edge to form an activated portion;
folding at least a portion of the activated portion of the absorbent article along ~~[[its]]~~ the longitudinal ~~[[edges]]~~ edge to form a folded portion; and
bonding at least a portion of the folded portion of the absorbent article along ~~[[its]]~~ the longitudinal ~~[[edges]]~~ edge to form edge folds.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~furthering~~ further comprising the step of cutting a portion of the absorbent article before the step of folding.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of ~~activation~~ incremental stretching includes ~~the application of~~ applying heat to the absorbent article to assist in the ~~activating process~~ incremental stretching.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 ~~wherein the application of~~ further comprising applying heat ~~is applied to the absorbent article~~ before the step of incremental stretching ~~absorbent article is activated to assist in the incremental stretching~~.
- 6-7 (Canceled)

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8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of folding ~~creates~~ includes folding to form a substantially curved ~~edge fold in the absorbent article~~ folded portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of ~~activating~~ incremental stretching ~~includes~~ creates creating substantially uniform gathers, ~~wherein, a pitch of the gathers is determined by a distance between a set of~~ by using teeth tips on an activation tooling.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~process for~~ step of bonding the ~~portion of the absorbent article disposable that was folded to the absorbent article~~ is selected from the group ~~consisting of~~ including adhesive bonding, ultrasonic bonding, compression bonding, thermal bonding, radio frequency bonding, infrared bonding and combinations thereof.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the absorbent article is disposable.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the absorbent article is selected from the group ~~consisting of~~ including disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, pantliners, incontinence briefs, and incontinence undergarments.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of ~~activating~~ incremental stretching ~~is performed along~~ includes incremental stretching a portion of ~~the longitudinal edge absorbent article~~ which substantially extends between a pair of side panels to form the activated portion.

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14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of folding is-
~~performed along~~ includes folding a portion of the longitudinal edge absorbent article
which substantially extends between a pair of side panels to form the activated portion.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of bonding is-
~~performed along~~ includes bonding a portion of the longitudinal edge absorbent article
which substantially extends between a pair of side panels to form the activated portion.

16-21 (Canceled)